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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

JORDAN HUDIS and THOMAS RITCHIE,

Plaintiffs,

-v-

SITU GROUP, INC. and KIEFER LE MOIGNE,

Defendants.

Case No. 21-cv-07960 (AT)

STIPULATED CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs Jordan Hudis and Thomas Ritchie and Defendants Situ Group, Inc. and Kiefer Le Moigne, hereafter referred to as "the Parties," believe that certain information that is or will be encompassed by discovery demands by the Parties or mediation procedures involves the production or disclosure of proprietary, confidential, non-public, sensitive, or otherwise protected information; and

WHEREAS, the Parties request that this Court issue a protective order limiting disclosure of proprietary, confidential, non-public, sensitive, or otherwise protected information in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c); and

WHEREAS, this Court finds that good cause exists for issuance of an appropriately tailored confidentiality order;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Parties to this action, their respective officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, any other person in active concert or participation with any of the foregoing, and all other persons with actual notice of this Order will adhere to the following terms, upon pain of contempt:

1. This Stipulation and Protective Order (the "Order") shall govern the handling of all

documents, data, information, tangible things, testimony, and discovery responses produced, provided, or served by the Parties or by Non-Parties in the Action (“Disclosing Party”), either voluntarily or as required by discovery requests made pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (collectively, “Discovery Material”).

2. Each Party may designate as confidential for protection under this Order, in whole or in part, any document, information, or material that constitutes or includes, in whole or in part, proprietary, confidential, non-public, sensitive, or otherwise protected information of the Party or a Third Party to whom the Party reasonably believes it owes an obligation of confidentiality with respect to such document, information, or material (“Protected Material”). Protected Material shall be designated by the Party producing it by affixing a legend or stamp on such document, information, or material as “CONFIDENTIAL.” The word “CONFIDENTIAL” shall be placed clearly on each page of the Protected Material (except deposition and hearing transcripts) for which such protection is sought. For deposition and hearing transcripts, the word “CONFIDENTIAL” shall be placed on the cover page of the transcript (if not already present on the cover page of the transcript when received from the court reporter) by each attorney receiving a copy of the transcript after that attorney receives notice of the designation of some or all of that transcript as “CONFIDENTIAL.”
3. Any document produced before issuance of this Order, including pursuant to the Court’s Mediation Scheduling Order, ECF Dkt. 21, with the designation “Confidential” or the like shall receive the same treatment as if designated “CONFIDENTIAL” under this order.
4. With respect to documents, information, or material designated “CONFIDENTIAL”

(“DESIGNATED MATERIAL”),¹ subject to the provisions herein and unless otherwise stated, this Order governs, without limitation: (a) all documents, electronically stored information, and/or things as defined by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; (b) all pretrial, mediation, hearing or deposition testimony, or documents marked as exhibits or for identification in depositions and hearings; (c) pretrial pleadings, exhibits to pleadings and other court filings; (d) affidavits; and (e) stipulations. All copies, reproductions, extracts, digests, and complete or partial summaries prepared from any DESIGNATED MATERIALS shall also be considered DESIGNATED MATERIAL and treated as such under this Order.

5. A designation of Protected Material (*i.e.*, “CONFIDENTIAL”) may be made at any time. Inadvertent or unintentional production of documents, information, or material that has not been designated as DESIGNATED MATERIAL shall not be deemed a waiver in whole or in part of a claim for confidential treatment. Any Party that inadvertently or unintentionally produces Protected Material without designating it as DESIGNATED MATERIAL may request destruction of that Protected Material by notifying the recipient(s) as soon as reasonably possible after the producing Party becomes aware of the inadvertent or unintentional disclosure, and providing replacement Protected Material that is properly designated. The recipient(s) shall then destroy all copies of the inadvertently or unintentionally produced Protected Materials and any documents, information, or material derived from or based thereon.
6. “CONFIDENTIAL” documents, information, and material may be disclosed only to the

¹ The term DESIGNATED MATERIAL is used throughout this Protective Order to refer to the class of materials designated as “CONFIDENTIAL” individually and collectively.

following persons, except upon receipt of the prior written consent of the designating Party, upon order of the Court, or as set forth in other paragraphs herein:

- (a) The Parties to this action, their insurers, and counsel to their insurers'
- (b) Outside counsel of record in this Action for the Parties.
- (c) Employees of such counsel assigned to and reasonably necessary to assist such counsel in the litigation of this Action;
- (d) Any mediator or arbitrator that the Parties engage in this matter or that this Court appoints, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as Exhibit A hereto or the confidentiality agreement required by SDNY Mediation procedures;
- (e) In-house counsel for the Parties who either have responsibility for making decisions dealing directly with the litigation of this Action, or who are assisting outside counsel in the litigation of this Action.
- (f) Independent litigation support services, including persons working for or as court reporters or stenographers, graphics or design services, jury or trial consulting services, and photocopy, document imaging, and database services retained by counsel and reasonably necessary to assist counsel with the litigation of this Action;
- (g) any witness who counsel for a Party in good faith believes may be called to testify at trial or deposition in this action, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as Exhibit A hereto;
- (h) any person a Party retains to serve as an expert witness or otherwise provide specialized advice to counsel in connection with this action, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as Exhibit A hereto; and
- (i) The Court and its personnel.

7. Before disclosing any CONFIDENTIAL material to any person referred to in subparagraphs 6(d), 6(g), or 6(h) (and except as otherwise provided) above, counsel must provide a copy of this Order to such person, who must sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as Exhibit A hereto stating that he or she has read this Order and agrees to be bound by its terms. Said counsel must retain each signed Non-Disclosure Agreement,

hold it in escrow, and produce it to opposing counsel either before such person is permitted to testify (at deposition or trial) or at the conclusion of the case, whichever comes first.

8. A Party shall designate documents, information, or material as “CONFIDENTIAL” only upon a good faith belief that the documents, information, or material contains proprietary, confidential, non-public, sensitive, or otherwise protected information of the Party or a Third Party to whom the Party reasonably believes it owes an obligation of confidentiality with respect to such documents, information, or material.
9. Documents, information, or material produced pursuant to any discovery request or mediation procedure in this Action, including but not limited to Protected Material designated as DESIGNATED MATERIAL, shall be used by the Parties only in the litigation of this Action and shall not be used for any other purpose. Any person or entity who obtains access to DESIGNATED MATERIAL or the contents thereof pursuant to this Order shall not make any copies, duplicates, extracts, summaries, or descriptions of such DESIGNATED MATERIAL or any portion thereof except as may be reasonably necessary in the litigation of this Action. Any such copies, duplicates, extracts, summaries, or descriptions shall be classified DESIGNATED MATERIALS and subject to all of the terms and conditions of this Order.
10. Nothing in this Order shall require production of documents, information, or other material that a Party contends is protected from disclosure by the attorney-client privilege, the work product doctrine, or other privilege, doctrine, or immunity. If documents, information, or other material subject to a claim of attorney-client privilege, work product doctrine, or other privilege, doctrine, or immunity is inadvertently or unintentionally produced, such production shall in no way prejudice or otherwise constitute a waiver of, or estoppel as to,

any such privilege, doctrine, or immunity. Any Party that inadvertently or unintentionally produces documents, information, or other material it reasonably believes are protected under the attorney-client privilege, work product doctrine, or other privilege, doctrine, or immunity may obtain the return of such documents, information, or other material by promptly notifying the recipient(s) and providing a privilege log for the inadvertently or unintentionally produced documents, information, or other material. The recipient(s) shall gather and return all copies of such documents, information, or other material to the producing Party, except for any pages containing privileged or otherwise protected markings by the recipient(s), which pages shall instead be destroyed and certified as such to the producing Party.

11. There shall be no disclosure of any DESIGNATED MATERIAL by any person authorized to have access thereto to any person who is not authorized for such access under this Order. The Parties are hereby ORDERED to safeguard all such documents, information, and material to protect against disclosure to any unauthorized persons or entities.
12. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prejudice any Party's right to use any DESIGNATED MATERIAL in taking testimony at any deposition or hearing provided that the DESIGNATED MATERIAL is only disclosed to a person(s) who is: (i) eligible to have access to the DESIGNATED MATERIAL by virtue of his or her employment with the designating Party; (ii) identified in the DESIGNATED MATERIAL as an author, addressee, or copy recipient of such information; (iii) although not identified as an author, addressee, or copy recipient of such DESIGNATED MATERIAL, has, in the ordinary course of business, seen such DESIGNATED MATERIAL; (iv) a current or former officer, director or employee of the producing Party or a current or former officer, director, or employee

of a company affiliated with the producing Party; (v) counsel for a Party, including outside counsel and in-house counsel (subject to paragraph 9 of this Order); (vi) an independent contractor, consultant, and/or expert retained for the purpose of this litigation; (vii) court reporters and videographers; (viii) the Court; or (ix) other persons entitled hereunder to access to DESIGNATED MATERIAL. DESIGNATED MATERIAL shall not be disclosed to any other persons unless prior authorization is obtained from counsel representing the producing Party or from the Court.

13. Parties may, at the deposition or hearing or within fifteen (15) days after receipt of a deposition or hearing transcript, designate the deposition or hearing transcript or any portion thereof as “CONFIDENTIAL” pursuant to this Order. Access to the deposition or hearing transcript so designated shall be limited in accordance with the terms of this Order. Until expiration of the 15-day period, the entire deposition or hearing transcript shall be treated as CONFIDENTIAL.
14. Any DESIGNATED MATERIAL that is filed with the Court shall be filed under seal in compliance with The Court’s Individual Rules IV.A and all relevant local and federal civil rules, and shall remain under seal until further order of the Court. The filing Party shall be responsible for informing the Clerk of the Court that the filing should be sealed and for placing the legend “FILED UNDER SEAL PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER” above the caption and conspicuously on each page of the filing. Exhibits to a filing shall conform to the labeling requirements set forth in this Order. If a pretrial pleading filed with the Court, or an exhibit thereto, discloses or relies on DESIGNATED MATERIAL, such confidential portions shall be redacted to the extent necessary, and the pleading or exhibit filed publicly with the Court to the extent such redaction is compatible with the

Court's Individual Rules and any applicable local and federal civil rules. The burden shall be on the designating party to seek the Court's approval for documents to be maintained under seal. A motion for sealing shall be filed contemporaneously with the filing documents sought to be sealed or within three business days thereafter.

15. The Order applies to pretrial discovery, including documents exchanged for the purpose of court-ordered mediation. Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to prevent the Parties from introducing any DESIGNATED MATERIAL into evidence at the trial of this Action, or from using any information contained in DESIGNATED MATERIAL at the trial of this Action, subject to any pretrial order issued by this Court.
16. At any time, a Party may request in writing to the other Party that the designation given to any DESIGNATED MATERIAL be modified or withdrawn. If the designating Party does not agree to re-designation within five (5) business days of receipt of the written request, the requesting Party may apply to the Court for relief. Upon any such application to the Court, the burden shall be on the designating Party to show why its classification is proper. Such application shall be treated procedurally as a motion to compel pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37, subject to the Rule's provisions relating to sanctions. In making such application, the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of the Court shall be met. Pending the Court's determination of the application, the designation of the designating Party shall be maintained.
17. To the extent that any discovery is taken of persons who are not Parties to this Action ("Third Parties") and in the event that such Third Parties contend the discovery sought involves trade secrets, confidential business information, sensitive personal information, or other proprietary information, then such Third Parties may agree to be bound by this Order.

18. To the extent that discovery or testimony is taken of Third Parties, the Third Parties may designate as “CONFIDENTIAL,” any documents, information, or other material, in whole or in part, produced by such Third Parties. The Third Parties shall have ten (10) days after production of such documents, information, or other materials to make such a designation. Until that time period lapses or until such a designation has been made, whichever occurs sooner, all documents, information, or other material so produced or given shall be treated as “CONFIDENTIAL” in accordance with this Order.
19. Within thirty (30) days of final termination of this Action, including any appeals, all DESIGNATED MATERIAL, including all copies, duplicates, abstracts, indexes, summaries, descriptions, and excerpts or extracts thereof (excluding excerpts or extracts incorporated into any privileged memoranda of the Parties), shall at the producing Party’s election either be returned to the producing Party or be destroyed. The receiving Party shall verify the return or destruction by affidavit furnished to the producing Party, upon the producing Party’s request. Notwithstanding this provision, the attorneys that the Parties have specifically retained for this action may retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, transcripts, expert reports, legal memoranda, correspondence, or attorney work product, even if such materials contain DESIGNATED MATERIAL. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute DESIGNATED MATERIAL remain subject to this Order.
20. The failure to designate documents, information, or material in accordance with this Order and the failure to object to a designation at a given time shall not preclude the filing of a motion at a later date seeking to impose such designation or challenging the propriety thereof. The entry of this Order and/or the production of documents, information, or material hereunder shall in no way constitute a waiver of any objection to the furnishing

thereof, all such objections being hereby preserved.

21. Any Party knowing or believing that any other Party is in violation of or intends to violate this Order and has raised the question of violation or potential violation with the opposing Party and has been unable to resolve the matter by agreement may move the Court for such relief as may be appropriate in the circumstances. Pending disposition of the motion by the Court, the Party alleged to be in violation of or intending to violate this Order shall discontinue the performance of and/or shall not undertake the further performance of any action alleged to constitute a violation of this Order.
22. Production of DESIGNATED MATERIAL by any Party shall not be deemed a publication of the documents, information, or material (or the contents thereof) produced so as to void or make voidable whatever claim the Parties may have as to the proprietary and confidential nature of the documents, information, or other material or its contents.
23. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to effect an abrogation, waiver, or limitation of any kind on the rights of each of the Parties to assert any applicable discovery or trial privilege.
24. Each of the Parties shall also retain the right to file a motion with the Court (a) to modify this Order to allow disclosure of DESIGNATED MATERIAL to additional persons or entities if reasonably necessary to prepare and present this Action; and (b) to apply for additional protection of DESIGNATED MATERIAL.

SO STIPULATED AND AGREED:

By: *James Halter*

James Halter
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Attorney for Plaintiffs

Dated: March 10, 2022

By: */s/ Rocco Magni*

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Dated: February __, 2022

SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 14, 2022
New York, New York


ANALISA TORRES
United States District Judge